



Tower Rock



Missouri Headwaters



Beaverhead Rock



Lewis and Clark Festival at Giant Springs

Tower Rock Tower Rock is a landmark noted by Captain Meriwether Lewis in his journal on July 16, 1805. This igneous rock formation is 424 feet high and stands in the mouth of the canyon where the Missouri River flows from the mountains to the plains. Lewis took astronomical measurements from the site and noted "immense herds of buffalo" on the plains below. This site, which became a state park in 2004, will be developed with trails and interpretive signage.

Location: Hardy Creek exit off I-15, about 40 miles south of Great Falls.
Phone: 406-454-5840



Missouri Headwaters - National Historic Landmark

On July 27, 1805, Captain Lewis stood on top of a limestone cliff and saw the three rivers that formed the Missouri River and called this place "an essential point in the geography of this western part of the continent." He named the tributaries Madison, Gallatin and Jefferson after the President and two Cabinet members who financed the expedition. Interpretive signs, picnic spots, short hiking trails, a campground and rental tipi all make this park a convenient, informative and fun stop.

Location: 4 miles off I-90 at the Three Forks exit.
Phone: 406-994-4042



Beaverhead Rock As the expedition moved into the area of current day Dillon, Sacagawea recognized a landmark indicating a spot where her people, the Shoshone, often camped in the summer. The captains thought this was a good sign because they were hoping to obtain horses for their trip across the Rocky Mountains. The Shoshone called the landmark "Beaver's Head," because the natural formation resembles the head of a swimming beaver.

Location: The best viewing spot is the pullout along Hwy. 41 about 12 miles north of Dillon (at mile marker 13) where the interpretive sign is located. Phone: 406-834-3413

Discover the Lewis and Clark Sites.



Clark's Lookout Captain William Clark climbed a rock outcropping overlooking the Beaverhead River to scout what lay ahead for the expedition on August 13, 1805. He took compass readings to the Beaver's Head, the course of the Wisdom (Big Hole) River, and to the gap where the river passed through the mountains. Interpretive signage explains the navigational techniques used by the Expedition. Walk the trail to the top of this promontory to stand where Captain Clark stood and view the surrounding scenery. A beautiful granite monument at the summit depicts the three compass readings Clark took on that summer day.

Location: Located 1 mile north of Dillon on Highway 91
Phone: 406-834-3413



Travelers' Rest The Corps of Discovery established the Travelers' Rest campsite on September 9, 1805 as the group took a much-needed break before their arduous journey over the Rockies. The Expedition camped here a second time on their return journey in 1806. Archaeologists have found evidence of the Corps' latrine and cooking fire, making this site one of only two sites in the nation with physical proof that Lewis and Clark were there. Call for the schedule of regular interpretive programs or make special arrangements for a group visit.

Location: .5 mile west of Lolo on Hwy 12.
Phone: 406-273-4253



Pirogue Island Captain Clark and his men, Sacagawea and baby Pomp, are believed to have camped on Pirogue Island, near present day Miles City, on their return trip east to St. Louis on July 29, 1806. Isolated and shaded by cottonwood trees, this Yellowstone River island offers visitors an excellent spot to view wildlife and to hunt for moss agates. The site is a haven for waterfowl, bald eagles, and whitetail and mule deer.

Location: 1 mile north of Miles City on Montana 59, then 2 miles east on Kinsey Road, then 2 miles south on county road. Phone: 406-234-0900



Clark's Lookout



Travelers' Rest



Pirogue Island



Travel Montana



Lewis and Clark Caverns



Makoshika



Medicine Rocks



Greycliff Prairie Dog Town

Natural Sites

Lewis and Clark Caverns Montana's first state park features some of the deepest and most spectacular limestone caverns in the Northwest. Explore the colorful stalagmites, stalactites, columns, and flowstone on an informative and entertaining two-hour guided tour. The walking tour is 2 miles long, including a 300 feet rise in elevation to the cave entrance and a total of 500 stairs down and 100 stairs up inside the caverns. The park also features hiking trails, evening interpretive programs, visitor center, store, deli, reservable group shelter and three rental cabins. Fee charged for Caverns tour.

Location: 19 Miles west of Three Forks on Montana Hwy. 2. Easily reached from Bozeman, Butte, Helena, Virginia City and I-90. Phone: 406-287-3541



Makoshika Rising from the Yellowstone valley and surrounding prairies is a broad expanse of badlands. Hogback ridges, fluted hillsides, pinnacles, and caprocks ornament a network of buttes. Here in the Hell Creek formation, 10 species of Cretaceous-Age dinosaurs have been found, including *Triceratops*, *Edmontosaurus* and *T-rex*. Makoshika's *Thescelosaurus* was a rare find, and likely the most complete (well-articulated) specimen of this species ever found. It is undergoing study at the Museum of the Rockies. The park features a visitor center, campground, hiking trails, picnic areas, rifle and archery range, amphitheater, and lots of scenic vistas! Makoshika is a place for recreation, education, and contemplation – an escape from the everyday.

Location: Located at the southeast edge of Glendive. Follow the signs through town - Merrill Avenue to Barry Street to Taylor Avenue. Phone: 406-377-6256



Medicine Rocks Weathering has given the soft sandstone rock formations in this scenic 320-acre park a Swiss-cheese look. "As fantastically beautiful a place as I have ever seen," said one of its first tourists in the late 1800s, a young rancher named Teddy Roosevelt. The park is a haven for mule deer, antelope, and sharp tailed grouse.

Location: 25 Miles south of Baker on Montana Hwy 7. Phone: 406-234-0900



Greycliff Prairie Dog Town Black-tailed prairie dogs are very social animals that live in "towns" and engage in social activities such as communicating and grooming each other. This is a great place to stretch your legs, enjoy a picnic, view some critters and learn about the important role these animals play in the prairie ecosystem. Walk in only from October - April.

Location: Nine miles east of Big Timber at I-90 exit 377. Phone: 406-247-2940



Lone Pine With spectacular views of the magnificent Flathead Valley and Glacier National Park, one can learn about the area's cultural and natural history at this park. A visitor center offers nature and interpretive programs and there are opportunities for picnics, hiking along a self-guided nature trail, and extensive hiking, biking, and horse trails. A resource room can be reserved for meetings and gatherings, and a covered shelter is available for outdoor gatherings. The park also offers a 7-target archery range.

Location: 5 miles southwest of Kalispell. Follow U.S. Hwy 2 to Meridian Road, then south on Meridian to Foy's Lake Road, then to Lone Pine Road. Phone: 406-752-5501



Sluice Boxes In this area of pristine beauty and historical mining significance, one can see remains of silver and lead mines, railroad trestles, and historic cabins lining Belt Creek as it winds through a beautiful canyon carved in limestone. A primitive trail provides access to fishing, challenging floats, and wildlife viewing.

Location: 15 miles south of Belt on U.S. Hwy. 89 on the Kings Hill Scenic Highway, then 2 miles west on county road 340. Phone: 406-454-5840



Back Country

Lost Creek The varied wildlife, unusual geologic formations, forested canyon and picturesque Lost Creek Falls provide visitors with a unique outdoor experience. Interpretive displays on a paved, disabled-accessible trail leading to the waterfall describe the unique geology of the area. Look for mountain goats and bighorn sheep in the area. 7-day camp limit.

Location: 1.5 miles east of Anaconda on Montana Hwy. 1, then 2 miles north on Hwy. 273, then 6 miles west. Phone: 406-542-5500



Wild Horse Island - (on Flathead Lake) Boat access only to this day-use park helps regulate and protect the 2,000-acre island. It preserves an endangered prairie environment, incredible wildlife, and historic resources. Check with park staff on the best ways to reach the island and its trails and views. Visitors enjoy trout fishing and can view rare prairie plant species, Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, mule deer and wild horses.

Location: Across from Big Arm State Park via boat to Little Skeeke Bay on the northwest side of island. Phone : 406-752-5501



Lone Pine



Sluice Boxes



Lost Creek



Wild Horse Island